

- a. ☐ within 3 months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
- ☐ within 3 months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an International application;
- ☒ before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- ☐ before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.
- b. ☐ after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, and thus: ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or ☐ a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.

- c. ☐ after the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus: the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided and a fee of \$180.00 is enclosed.
2. It is hereby certified:
- ☒ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
- ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in § 1.56 (c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
3. ☐ Consideration of the following additional information (including any co-pending or abandoned U.S. applications, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested:
4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached Form PTO-1449:
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to an English language translation of a foreign patent office search report submitted herewith, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page(s) _____, and/or
- ☐ reference is made to the concise explanation set forth below:
5. ☐ Applicant also offers the following comments for the Examiner's consideration:
6. ☐ Also enclosed is a copy of a foreign search report citing these references.
7. ☐ The listed documents were brought to the attention of the Applicant(s) after payment of the issue fee in the captioned case. The documents were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant(s) request this Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 be placed in the file of the captioned application.

8. ☐ Applicant(s) requests that the Information Disclosure Statement and attached Form PTO-1449 and references, which are being filed before the grant of the patent and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(i), be placed in the file of the captioned application.

If any required fees are missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5181-79200/RCK.

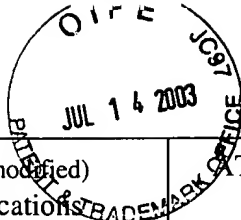
Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Kowert
Reg. No. 39,255
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MEYERTONS, HOOD, KIVLIN, KOWERT & GOETZEL, P.C.
P. O. Box 398
Austin, Texas 78767
(512) 853-8800

Date: July 11, 2003

**Form PTO-1449** (modified)

List of Patents and Publications

For Applicant's Information

Disclosure Statement

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DKT. NO. 5181-79200

APPLICANT: Shanthaveeraiah, et al.

FILING DATE: April 25, 2001

SERIAL NO. 09/842,495

GROUP: 2171

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	C1	6,199,112	3/6/01	Wilson			
	C2	5,941,972	8/24/99	Hoese, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INITIALS	REF. DES.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO
	C3	98/18306	5/7/98	WO			
	C4	989 490	3/29/00	EP			

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OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	C5	International Search Report for PCT/US 02/10103, mailed May 20, 2003, 6 pages.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the patent owner.